



Veterans of Foreign Wars

Department of Nebraska

Bill Montoya Post 1581, Omaha, Nebraska

2019-2020

Commander: Chris Leighter
Sr. Vice Commander: Dan Hennings
Jr. Vice Commander: James Kelter
Quartermaster: Dr. Steven Youngberg
Adjutant: Dr. Steven Youngberg
Chaplain: Ann Thieman
Service officer: John Liebsack
Surgeon: Patricia Whitebear
Judge Advocate: Daniel Ortiz
Three-year trustee: Rob Herman
Two-year trustee: James Miller
One-year trustee: Marty Riemenschneider

Newsletter September 2019

Future Events

- **Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress**, 11820 Harrison Street, La Vista, NE 68128. 11-7-19, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, free cars to needy Veterans.
- **Buddy Poppy event** November 9, 2019 Saturday 7 AM to 10 AM—HyVee stores, 156th and Maple, 90th and Center, 180th and Q street
- **Veterans Breakfast Event:** November 11, 2019. HyVee stores 156th and Maple, 90th and Center, 132nd and Dodge. 7 AM to 11 AM.
- **CarStar—Car Giveaway**—date-time TBD
- **Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home**, Xmas party, 12-7-19
- **Award Event:** VFW Post 1581 will present award to students and the community. 12-14-19, 9 AM, HUSKER ROOM 9 AM, Hampton Inn, 11201 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68154 (Old Mill – South of Dodge),

Visit our new VFW Post 1581 web site. Go to the following link: [CLICK HERE \(vfw1581.org\)](http://vfw1581.org)

Facebook Page: [CLICK HERE](#)

YouTube: [CLICK HERE](#)

Email: vfw1581@gmail.com

Future Events

- **Texas Roadhouse** (Giving Back to Veterans program, partnering with VFW Post 1581—ongoing)
- **POW/MIA Run**, September 20, 2019
- **Intertribal POW-WOW**, Saturday, 9-21-19, 11 AM, event starts a 1 PM, Fort Omaha Campus, 5300 North 30th Street, Omaha, NE 68111.

Next regular meeting: October 12, 2019, 7 AM to 9 AM, free breakfast included, Hampton Inn, 11201 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68154 (Old Mill – South of Dodge), large meeting room (Husker).

Map [CLICK HERE](#) Future meetings: Second Saturday of every month. 7 AM (place and time, same as above) see the schedule on page 3.



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Past Events

Past Events

VFW Post 1581 has applied for a VFW Nation Foundation Grant for \$1,000.00. We have received approval and have the \$1,000.00 grant in our account.

We have donated **\$655.12** to **New Visions Homeless Veterans**, and purchased 4 reconditioned tower desktop computer and 4 headsets.

No Veteran ever sets out to be homeless, and often when they end up here at New Visions they are broken in mind, body, and spirit. One of the first steps in problem solving is to gather information, and in this information gathering process nothing beats the internet. Computers are definitely a tool to help in the recovery process, here are a few uses they serve:

Employment. Those without an income stream need to develop one, and employment fills that gap. Almost no employer takes paper applications or posts the jobs of-line.

Applying for Benefits. Almost all benefits must be applied for on-line, i.e. food stamps, disability, section 8.

Bus Route directions. We do have bus tickets, but they must be able to navigate the system to get to destination.

My Healthy Vet. An online service through the VA to manage their health care.

Reconnection to family. Many veterans, once the healing process start want to reconnect with family. Facebook is an ideal tool to locate and communicate through.

Search for housing. Our goal is to find permanent housing for each veteran. This allows them input to geographical area, or specific amenities.

Research. Be it health, sobriety, diet or any other matter, nothing is better than the internet.

Investigating and/or repairing credit. Starting with an online credit report, and a means to connect with various vendors.

Online banking and bill pay.

Entertainment. Online movies, music, hobby groups.

The above items assume that the veteran knows how to use a computer. By having a collection of "like computers", classes on computer use, which they provide, they are much more productive.

This education process is crucial and those without computer skills are considered illiterate. While this is the 21st century, most of our veterans are 20th century men and women without education and are afraid of technology.

In addition, we have a business printer for the sole use of residents. This allows for hard copy items to be made available, independently.



Picture below, left to right, VFW Post 1581 member, Dean Mathisen, VFW Post 1581 ADJ. / QM Dr. Steven Youngberg. New Visions Director, Steve Roberts. VFW Post 1581, Trustee, Marty Riemenschneider.





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Past Events

Past Events



Our program delivers an all-around lifelong support system focusing on healing our Veterans bodies and minds while at the same time saving the lives of shelter and rescue dogs that would otherwise be facing euthanasia.

This program creates a scenario where everyone wins because multiple lives are saved. The dogs are given a purpose in a loving, forever home and the veterans quality of life is drastically improved with the medical assistance and by the healing power of their new canine partner

Picture below , left to right, VFW Post 1581 Sr. Vice Commander, Dan Hemmings, JAVELAN, Inc., Vice President, Bob Dean, VFW Post 1581 , Commander, C.L. Leighter.

We have donated **\$344.88 JAVELAN, Inc. for training of service dogs for Veterans.**

JAVELAN, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing service dogs to enrich the lives of military veterans, enabling independence and life-changing support. JAVELAN, Inc. was founded in January, 2017, as a non-profit organization to support the placement and training of service dogs for military veterans. Our primary focus is partnering veterans with trainers so the vet can obtain a fully trained service dog. JAVELAN is dedicated to assuring veterans in need will benefit from this opportunity regardless of ability to pay.

Our service mission is first, to provide our nations heroes that suffer with **PTSD** (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), Traumatic Brain Injury, and many other affiliated physical disabilities, with trained medical service dogs, as well as supplies and a support team. Second, whenever possible we attempt to connect veterans with shelter or rescue dogs.





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Current Events

Texas Roadhouse (Giving Back to Veterans program, partnering with VFW Post 1581 –ongoing project

We ran the program from November to December 2018 at Texas Roadhouse, 156th and Dodge location..

We have provided to catering veterans

- New Visions 40 Veterans

VFW Auxiliary: VFW Post 1581 is working on establishing an Auxiliary. We need 25 members to start. Annual dues are \$25.00. For qualifications and more information [CLICK HERE](#) OR John Liebsack 402-210-5198

Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress If you know of a deserving Veteran that needs a car, contact VFW Dept. of NE-John Liebsack 402-210-5198

When VFW Post 1581 members work on a project or provide help in the community, please fill out an online report.

- Go to VFW NE website vfwne.com
- go to resources
- drop down window, go to program reporting
- Direct Link to Report [CLICK HERE](#)

Check the calendar on the VFW Post 1581 website vfw1581.org for any recent changes to information /

Past Events

VFW Post 1581 Members that have been attending our monthly meeting the first Saturday of every month said they had conflicts the first Saturday of each month. We are now working to convert some monthly meetings to the second Saturday of every month. We will have an initial schedule of the first Saturday and second Saturday meetings that depend on the meeting room schedule. The place and time of the meetings remain the same, 7 AM to 9 AM, free breakfast included, **Hampton Inn, 11201 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68154 (Old Mill – South of Dodge)**, small meeting room.

Below is the new VFW Post 1581 monthly meeting schedule going forward:

Following meetings for the 2018 calendar year

- ~~Jan 6, 2018~~
- ~~Feb 3, 2018~~
- ~~Mar 3, 2018~~
- ~~Apr 7, 2018~~
- ~~May 5, 2018~~
- ~~Jun 2, 2018~~
- July 7, 2018 **First Saturday Completed**
- Aug 4, 2018 **First Saturday Completed**
- September 8, 2018 **Second Saturday Completed**
- October 13, 2018 **Second Saturday Completed**
- November 10, 2018 **Second Saturday Canceled**
- December 8, 2018 **Second Saturday Completed**

Following meetings for the 2019 calendar year

- January 5, 2019 **First Saturday Completed**
- February 9th 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- March 9, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- April 13, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- May 11, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- June 8, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- July 13, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- August 10, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- September 14, 2019 **Second Saturday Completed**
- October 12, 2019 **Second Saturday**
- November 9, 2019 **Second Saturday**
- December 14, 2019 **Second Saturday**

We will continue to provide a meeting reminder the day before the meeting.



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Future Events

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VFW Post 1581 is trying to create a Auxiliary for our post.

VFW Post 1581 Auxiliary

- o Need 15 members to start
- o 16 years and up.
- o There is a \$25.00 fee per year.

Start a new Auxiliary

When you start a new Auxiliary, you're not just increasing the VFW Auxiliary's membership. You're expanding our ability to serve veterans, active-duty military and their families while promoting patriotism in your community.

Whether a VFW Post decides on its own that it wants an Auxiliary or whether a member or non-member sees the potential for a new Auxiliary, the steps for creating an Auxiliary are the same:

A VFW Post must vote by 2/3 majority to have an Auxiliary. (An Auxiliary can never exist on its own without a Post and can never be started without that Post's permission).

The Department (state) President appoints the official organizer of that Auxiliary and he/she must be a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

A minimum of 15 eligible applicants must be on the application for the Charter (transfers are not eligible).

Eligibility Requirements for VFW Auxiliary Membership:

Members must be citizens of the United States or a United States National, and at least 16 years old.

Those eligible are:

- Husband/Wife
- Widower/Widow
- Father/Mother
- Grandfathers/Grandmothers
- Sons/Daughters
- Grandsons/Granddaughters
- Brothers/Sisters

Of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Those eligible for membership in the VFW are those that have received a campaign medal for overseas service; have served 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days in Korea; or have ever received hostile fire or imminent danger pay.

Step and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran. Proof of service is required for eligibility and must be obtained by the applicant.

We have 5 people now, 3 others possible.

For people interest in the VFW Post 1581 Auxiliary contact John Liebsack 210-5198 OR johnl@vfwne.org



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VFW Post 1581 Members Only Area

Go to our post 1581 website (www1581.org), click on the login on the right side of the homepage, click on "members only", enter your VFW member number in login, enter you last name in the password. (meeting minutes , member information, contacts, etc.) Direct Link [CLICK HERE](#)

Current Members Membership Control

Fortunately, managing your VFW membership doesn't have to slow you down. We put you in control of your membership record by conveniently offering many services right on our website, www.vfw1581.com home page.

Simply log in, and you'll have access to your membership account and all that comes with it. [CLICK HERE](#)

Military Sexual Trauma:

Ann Thieman member of VFW Post 1581 has first-hand experience with military sexual trauma and has provided an interview with the VA. You can access this article in the VA Link magazine, April 2012, page 9 and page 13. [Click Here](#)

Become a VFW Post 1581 Life Member

Over one half of our post members are **life members**. Why not consider turning your **annual membership into a life membership** so that you do not need to renew your membership every year. As a life member, your membership continues on. **Life membership has a one-time pay or a monthly payment plan over 12 months.** Membership information [CLICK HERE](#) OR [Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198](tel:402-210-5198).

Control your VFW Membership at VFW National HQ [CLICK HERE](#)

VFW National Online store [CLICK HERE](#)

VFW Post 1581 Newsletters: [CLICK HERE](#)

If you or someone you know wishes to continue their VFW membership but are having a difficult time financially, Post 1581 has a program to help financially with the annual membership. Contact [John Liebsack 402-210-5198](tel:402-210-5198) for assistance for further steps in the process.

Our current members have signed up several new VFW members to our post. If you have a potential VFW membership candidate, please [Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198](tel:402-210-5198) for assistance for further steps in the process.

Check out the **VFW Nebraska HQ Website** at (www.vfwne.com) There are many resources for you to use.

Email: vfw1581@gmail.com

Web site: vfw1581.org

VFW Bill Montoya Post 1581

C. Lee Leighter

Commander

VFW Post 1581 Annual Members: Check your membership status on your card. Your membership may have expired. You can renew online—see the vfw1581.org website. Select navigation-resources, See "Current Members Membership Control" to set-up your VFW member account. OR call John Liebsack 402-210-5198.